



**For ages 9+** By: Mikayla Courtney Jaegar, Renee Samara Furtado, Huai San Bawi Haunung, Lily Maree Kensington, Charles Luis Morales, Alisha Anne Day, Jade Michele Harrison, Astrid Therese, Lanigan and Olivia Bonnie Cunningham. (Melton 7)



## Parameters Form

### Team Details

STATE: VIC .....

DIVISION: Middle School .....

SCHOOL/GROUP: St Francis Catholic College (MELTON) .....

TEAM NAME: SFCC Melton 7 .....

TEAM ID: 1297 .....

### Parameters and random words

#### Parameters

Primary character 1 Teacher .....

Primary character 2 Army general .....

Non-human character Cassowary .....

Setting Observatory .....

Issue Winning the lottery .....

#### Random words

swept .....

dazzling .....

faded .....

wrinkled .....

quirky .....

### Instructions

- Start no earlier than **8am**
- Write an original story.
  - based on all **five parameters** (above)
  - including all **five random words** (above) as written, and in bold type
  - with some identifiable **Australian content** (in theme or setting or characters, etc)
  - keeping within the allowed word count (remember every word on every page counts)!
  - include this parameters form in your book **immediately after the front cover**
- Remember: **Every** word on **every** page counts. This includes your front cover, back cover, blurb, acknowledgements and copyright form.
- **Be sure to give yourself enough time to submit your book and complete the following checklist before 9pm**

Log on to the Team Coordinator Portal to:

- Check the spelling of your team name and team members' names  
(how these are spelt on submission will be how they are displayed on certificates)
- Complete the Declaration
- Submit your finished book in **both** PDF and plain text format by 9pm

## **Copyright**

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Mikayla Courtney Jaegar, Renee Samara Furtado, Huai San Bawi Haunung, Lily Maree Kensington, Charles Luis Morales, Alisha Anne Day, Jade Michele Harrison, Astrid Therese Lanigan and Olivia Bonnie Cunningham.

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This story is dedicated to everyone, old and young, rich and poor, sad and happy, sick and healthy, we all hope that you enjoy this book as much as we enjoyed writing it. Shout to all the amazing teachers, staff and students who helped us throughout our day, to make to this book possible. I hope you enjoy :)

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## CHAPTER 1: The Start of a New Journey

Sam and Briana step out the door, into the fresh morning air. Brie's long blond hair blows in the wind. Sam tucks a long strand of hair behind her ear and stares into her eyes.

"Sam" Brie whispers.

"Yeah?" Sam replies quietly.

"I am glad you are back from the military. How was the tour?" Brie says happily.

"It was fine, but I'm even better now that I'm back with you." Sam tells her. Brie blushes and kisses her on the forehead.

Sam swings his heavy duffle bag onto his shoulder and opens the car door. He stuffs and forces it into the fully packed car and quickly closes the door before it falls out.

"I'm sure that'll won't cause issues later on for us" he chuckled. Brie sighs at his dry joke, looks at him and says, "Wow, eight months away on a tour and yet you couldn't find a better sense of humor."

"Oh really?" he says, laughing. "One second, I forgot something." Sam walks off, back into the house and he picks up some bread from the counter,

"Sorry just forgot the bread" Sam yells while waving it in the air.

He passes the bread to Brie, and she carefully puts it into the car that is stuffed full of food. Sam goes back into the house to pick up the picnic blanket and hands it to Brie. He grabs drinks from the fridge and tosses them into the Esky.

"Are you sure there isn't anything else that we need to bring" Brie asks.

“Depends on whether or not you have your wallet” Sam says.

“That was one time!” Brie says as she throws her hands in the air and watches Sam as he chuckles at his own joke.

Brie walks out the door and says, “I forgot to make ice yesterday, so we’ll have to get some on the way to the observatory from the servo.”

“Oh, that's fine, sounds good!” Sam replies.

Sam opens the door for Brie, and she gets in. He shuts the door and gets into the driver's seat. He slowly backs out of the driveway and turns the corner.

## CHAPTER 2: The Drive

Their white car rumbles down the dusty, black road as the sun beams through the windshield. Sam and Brie shake from side to side as they travel on the rocky tar. The radio plays softly in the background. Brie stares at the petals drifting in the gentle wind. The sky was a clear and bright blue.

“I cannot believe it has been three years since we started dating. It feels like have known you forever.” It feels like we have known each other forever.” Brie says with a smile, glancing over to him.

“Yeah, forever.” There was a small pause before he asked,

“So how were the exams?” Brie replied with a humble smile,

“My class has been working extremely hard. They all did great.”

Sam parked the car suddenly, and Brie jumped, realizing they had already arrived at the gas station.

“Ice, right? How much again?” Sam asked expectingly.

Brie nodded before adding on, “Just a bag please.”

Sam wandered off to the back of the servo and swung open the freezer door. An icy blast hit him as he grabbed a bag. He walked back to the front counter where Brie was waiting for him. Sam tossed the ice on the table as well as a pack of gum. He handed over a fresh and crisp blue ten-dollar to the weary employee. Brie and Sam took their purchases and put them in the boot of their car.

The couple got back in and continued their road trip. Brie said to Sam “How long do you think it’ll take for your hair to grow back?”

Sam replied with a large smile, “It better be soon causing my head is freezing!”

Brie giggled and unwrapped a piece of gum. She popped it into her mouth and chewed it on.

“We’re nearly there, B.”

As they got closer to the observatory, the gum trees got taller, and they created a leafy roof over them. Birds chirped in the branches and the shadows of kangaroos hopped past. Sam turned into a small path covered in gravel. The rocks, pebbles and leaves crunched under the wheels. They drove into a parking lot and looked up at a huge dome.

“Wow!” exclaimed Brie, “It’s gigantic!”



### CHAPTER 3: The Winning Ticket

Sam gets out of the car first and opens the car door for Brie. Sam stretches his hand out to her and Brie blushes at his kind gesture “Thank you” she stammers. Sam opens the boot, Brie walks over “Need help” she asks.

Sam tells her “Just stay in the car for now, don’t want you to get exhausted.”

“Just let me help you this once” Brie teases,

“Ok, then” a smile **swept** over his face.

They unload their stuff from the car.

“I didn’t know we packed this much.”

Brie states, “Me, neither” Sam says,

“You can carry the duffle bag, and I will deal with everything else.”

Brie hurriedly grabs the duffle bag and says, “Don’t want to waste any more time standing around, let’s go shall we.”

As they head away from the car, they hear that the radio is still on.

“Live from ABC news, we are announcing the winning lotto numbers from last week’s lotto.”

Sam overhears this, drops everything he was holding and rushes to retrieve the lotto ticket from the glovebox.

“Brie come on; they’re announcing the winning numbers.”

Brie runs to him, placing the duffle bag on the floor in excitement and sits beside him. Sam holds her hand, and they sit together in anticipation.

“The winning numbers are 20, 8, 19, 74, 0, and finally number 8.”

Brie exclaims, “We won, Sam, we won, I can’t believe it we won!”

They embrace and hug each other. Brie jumps out of the car, holding the ticket and throws her hands in the air.

“Come on, Sam let’s go.”

“Ok,” Sam says while smiling.

Sam turns off the radio and closes the car door. He turns off the engine and takes Brie by the hand. They look at each other and smile.

Out of nowhere, a **wrinkled** bird swiftly runs and snatches the lotto ticket from Brie’s hand. Brie yells after the bird.

“Hey, come back here, Sam that bird just stole our winning ticket.”



## CHAPTER 4: Pandemonium

“We - we need to get that ticket back!”

Brie stammers as she scrambles over her own feet and trips over the bags that had been dropped there a moment before.

“Yeah, we do!” Sam agrees.

Just as the two are about to go off chasing the huge bird, Sam stops in his place before calling out to Brie.

“Wait Brie I forgot something again! Let me get it.”

“What are you doing! It cannot be that important, hurry up would you, before I leave you behind. We need to get that ticket back now Sam!”

Bree calls out from halfway down the parking lot.

“I got the thing let's go!”

Sam yells out as he sprints down the lot with Brie not too far behind. The cassowary was so fast that they could not keep up. As the bulky bird ran into the animal observatory the couple went to follow it but were stopped in their tracks by a security guard.

“Sorry sir, mad am, but you need to pay the fee to get in.”

Brie looked over the man's shoulder at the ramped running bird.

“But sir, that cassowary has our lottery ticket.” Brie protested.

“No ifs ands or but young lady.” The guard said still firm with his tone.

“Sweetheart let's not argue, the longer we do the more space there is between us and that giant bird.”

Just as Sam had finished his sentence the cassowary knocked over a stall selling jewelry. Running away from the reeked stand and the screaming woman that was on the ground due to the impact of the heavy bird. Sam quickly got out his wallet and paid the entry fee for the pair before running after the cassowary and practically dragging Brie by the hand.

As the chase continued the massive bird was knocking over everything in its path creating obstacles for the two to leap over and dodge. And just as they were about to back the cassowary into a corner Brie bumped into something, someone and fell to the ground.

“Oh, my goodness Brie! Are you ok!” Sam asked his partner in a worried tone.

As the man that Brie ran into apologizes profusely to her. Brie gets up and brushes the dirt from her dress.

“It is okay, do not worry about it, but we must go now, so have a good day.”

Just as the man had left the pair saw the cassowary run and almost jump into the synthetic lake from the small bridge before getting startled and running away instead. The two followed the bird and chased it around for another three minutes. They finally manage to chase the large bird into an enclosed building, the rock exhibit they run after the cassowary following it into the building.

## CHAPTER 5: The Chase Goes On

As Sam and Brie followed it into the observatory cassowary kept knocking and throwing items around the floor to try and slow them both down. As the cassowary ran around both Brie and Sam in for a lap around the entire exhibit Sam did not struggle to keep up with it as Brie lagged, Sam **wrinkled** his eyes in anger as he called towards the cassowary.

“Come back here! That was our ticket!”

The cassowary did not bother to slow down at this point, it was actively taunting them both. So, Sam looked around and tried to do a flail of move and dive forward trying to take the cassowary down. As Sam **swept** the air it did not work out as he had landed on the floor and looked at the cassowary, At the same time Brie looked at the cassowary it was like a pandemonium for her as it kept crashing the objects around aimlessly without thought, she huffed and puffed as this was their fourth lap around the place at trying to catch the cassowary while Sam tried to keep diving over and over again to get the cassowary to lie down. Brie looked at Sam trying to keep up with him as she said.

“Why...Why is this bird so different and **quirky...**” As Brie kept talking and running in an exhausted tone

Sam shrugged his shoulders as he said.

“No idea but we can’t let it get away keep up.” As he kept going and going as Brie noticed his tone of voice it was clear to her that his morale was slowly faded already yet he kept trying his plan of diving, running, and running harder after it. Brie looked around there had to be a better than current plan Sams doing, and she knows he’ll get tired, so she tiredly quickly looking

around for any idea trying to keep going as she practically each drop from her become dazzling from the light and soon enough she noticed something small from the cassowary.

## CHAPTER 6: The Chase Continues

Brie noticed that when the cassowary where in a room with either a door or an open hallway she sees that the cassowary always went for the door seeming to understand that a door slowed them down both more, so she called out to Sam about it,

“Sam! Block the doors it prefers doors wait for the butterfly area it is the only place with the same way and out. we can corner it over there!” Sam looks at Brie and looked at the cassowary, and nods back, her understanding what she means, so after one more lap around the place, Sam goes towards the door. Sam looks at Brie and look at the cassowary, and nods back, her understanding what she means, so after one more lap around the place, Sam goes towards the door. The cassowary stops and tries to back track to the door it entered from, but Brie made sure to also block it, so it quickly rushed into the hallway. Just as it entered Brie noticed that Sam glanced at her for a second and smiled a bit, as we both entered the cassowary ran around in confusion before realizing what happened but before it could start to quickly run out Sam had leapt forward and pinned it down. The cassowary doesn't does not give up as it keeps on fighting and moving around in Sams arm and flailing arm and flailing into arm, scratching and tearing at his jacket but after a while it finally gives up and submits in his arms as he sighs in exhaustion after such a long chase and looked up to Brie as she walked forward towards the cassowary.

## CHAPTER 7: The Thief Gets Caught

“Give us that ticket back!” Brie yells with frustration at the **quirky** cassowary, as she is angrily yanking the ticket out of its triangular shaped beak.

Sam tells Brie with caution to slowly walk to the back of the cassowary and pull at the back of it, while he swaps with her to try and pull at the ticket in its mouth out. While Sam is trying to reason with the cassowary, he pleads,

“Please give us the winning lottery ticket back Mr. Cassowary.”

Brie finds a stick while Sam is pulling at the ticket to instead try to carefully pry open the sharp beak of the cassowary. However, Brie ends up having to hold the cassowary’s head in place to try and shove the stick in its mouth to distract it from the ticket in its mouth without hurting it or having it squirm around and leave her grasp. Sam and Brie finally get the ticket which is slightly torn on the side when it came out of the cassowary’s mouth. Sam and Brie let the cassowary go and it runs out of the butterfly room, its talons scratching against the floor, and it hides around the corner.

“Whew... we finally got the ticket back!” Brie shouted out, as she cheers in exhausted excitement while she waves the slightly torn and dirt covered ticket in the air.

“We are quite lucky.” Sam replies, Brie starts to look around while also looking in wonder over to the butterfly room that is filled with all varieties.

“Come on Sam!” Brie insisted as she ran off into the butterfly room. Sam got up and followed her into the room with an honest smile as he looked at the stars one last time before following

Brie into the butterfly room.



## CHAPTER 8: The Butterfly Room

Sam and Brie sigh with exhaustion; their heads rise in emphasis. Upon opening their eyes, Brie gasps. Her eyes widen with astonishment and pure concentration.

Overhead, butterflies were flapping their weightless wings, thousands of vibrant and swirling colors zooming and roaming among the now darkened sky. It was as though paint of all colors splattered onto a black canvas. Sam was turning his head, spinning in circles with amazement in his relaxed expression. He wore a grin, as Brie was bringing her hands to her mouth. Brie softened her expression in awe as her head dropped, the rich greens swirled around her, causing her to stand out like a bird on water. The cassowary is clearly trying to hide but it was badly camouflaged among the flowering plants and trees, as its grey and dark pelt, with its vibrant red and blue spots, and their darkened talons and eyes, did not blend well with green. Brie only giggles in response.

“It’s beautiful...” Brie laughed.

Sam chuckles, placing his hand hesitantly onto the oak pillars that held the tart that kept the butterfly’s prisoner. The oak pillars have vines with blooming flowers wrapped around them, the butterflies nesting within them, the bees buzzing with excitement at the fully pollinated flowers.

The butterfly room is spectacular, breathtaking, and even so stunning anyone could claim the room had been dropped down by the heavens, that the goddesses and gods bestowed the room upon humanity as proof of their existence.

“It’s not as beautiful as you,” says Sam, teasingly, as he takes in the room again, gliding his hand off the pillar and walking towards the cassowary. Brie laughs and tilts her head flustered, before taking hesitant steps in the cassowary’s direction.

“And now you...” Sam spoke with determination, as though he was signaling something to someone. Brie looked confused and uncertain, fearing for her own safety as she was standing in front of the creature.

“Isn’t it dangerous? It might try to bite us!” Brie squirms with fear like the cassowary yowls. Sam nods, uncertainty *fading* onto his expression.

“SCRAM!” Sam suddenly screams, going onto his tippy toes, and raising his arms wide to make himself appear like a threat and massive.

The cassowary yelped in fear, scrambling to its talons, and taking off running, skidding across the floor as it plunged into the overgrown flowerbed to the point where it could not be seen.

“AH-!” Bri jumps as the cassowary passes her beforehand, and she leaps to Sam, hugging him. She kept hugging him, mumbling about how scared she was and how fun but also frustrating today was. Sam sighs, hugging her tighter and then pushing her away gently.

“C’mon, we have to get back to our picnic, don’t we?” Sam smiles, but you can easily tell he is nervous about something. Brie decides it is none of her business then, and if he were still nervous later, she would ask.

“Yes, we do!” Brie exclaims excitedly. Sam grabs her hand, and they begin to walk towards the entrance to the observatory. Brie pauses, beginning to say something.

“Uhm... actually... could we stay a little longer? I would love to watch the birds through the window... or even look around further-” Sam places a finger to his mouth, silencing Brie.

“Of course we can.” Sam smiles, looking relieved and expectant of something. Brie smiled back, beginning to run towards the entrance, the butterflies began to flap away, startled.

“WAIT-” Sam yowled as he got tugged along by the handholding. Sam regained his footing, running hand in hand with Brie on equal levels, towards the entrance. Bri and Sam turned their heads towards each other as they walked into the observatory at last, smiling at each other humbling.

## CHAPTER 9: The Surprise

Brie is watching some birds singing through the observatory window, as Sam reaches into his pocket and pulls out a small velvet box, takes a deep breath, and taps Brie on the shoulder, then drops instantly on one knee. Brie whirls around; her blonde hair bouncing as she brings her hand to her mouth in shock of what she could see before her, her hand covering her innocent smile.

“Briana Hokkaido, I have loved you since the day we first met. Now I cannot even imagine a day when you are gone. Will you take my hand in marriage and live with me forever?”

“I love you too, Sam!” Says Brie. Sam slides the **dazzling** diamond ring onto Brie’s finger, as Brie springs into Sam’s arms as he twirls her around, the silver moonlight was glistening through the observatory window as a group of butterflies spiraled around them as they held each other.

“Let’s go for a walk,” Sam suggests after a while. Brie nods and takes his arm as they start walking out of the observatory.

Sam leads Brie by the arm, and they go for a gentle stroll through the moonlit gardens. Closely following them was an ocean blue cassowary.

“What’s that noise?” asks Brie, cautiously looking behind her. “Is that the cassowary? Quick Sam, we need to run away!”

“Don’t worry, your safe.”

“But cassowaries are one of the most dangerous birds.”

“Not this one,” Sam turned to face the cassowary. “Come here.”

“Careful Sam, he’s dangerous!”

“Trust me, you're going to be fine.” The cassowary strolls over to Sam and snuggles its head on his shoulder. “You, see? He is friendly.”

“How did you train him? Didn't you just meet him?”

“He was a part of my proposal. I have been training him for months, to steal the ring, so that I could propose to you.”

“But he took the lottery ticket, not the ring.”

“He was supposed to take the ring, but he messed up and took the ticket instead.” replied Sam.

“Well, you're the best person to have this adventure with.” smiled Brie.



## CHAPTER 10: The Big Day

“Huff” the sounds of Brie’s heavy breathing fills the bridal suite as she waits for the music to play so she can walk down the aisle to see Sam. When the music starts, she slowly walks down the aisle with arms linked with her dad trying not to step on her beautiful ball gown as a dress. As she looks up, she can see the tears filling Sam’s eyes like they never have before as a look of wonder fills his face. By the time Brie stands next to Sam he cannot keep his eyes off her cream lace dress with white flowers and a long veil. Her blonde bangs fall in front of her face as she pushes them back behind her ear with the rest of her freshly curled hair.

The Priest seems to talk forever but the noise just goes straight through Brie and Sam as they look into one another’s eyes. Tears of joy start to fall from Brie’s dark green eyes as the realization hits that this is real and that they will be together until death does them part and at that thought Brie starts to remember the crazy story of how this all happened and how it was only a year ago.

“Do you Sam Babka take Briana Hokkaido to be your lawful wedded wife” Sam takes a shaky breath as he looks in Brie’s eyes. A smile spreads across his face as he says,

“I do,” the priest speaks again.

“Do you Briana Hokkaido take Sam Babka to be your lawful wedded husband.”

Tears stream down Brie’s rosy cheeks as the memories of their love flood her mind, then a choked “I do” comes out.

“You may now kiss the bri- “before the priest can even finish his sentence Sam leans in and kisses Brie with an enrapturing kiss.

They take each other's hands in one another and walk down the aisle their smiles are captured in a photo with the crowd throwing pink and white flower pedals on them and cheering. But just as they leave a blue **wrinkled** head pokes out of the crowd. Both Sam and Brie notice the blue bird hidden amongst the crowd in a cute suit and tie. Brie looked at Sam, her smile getting even bigger.

“Did you seriously bring him to the wedding” she asked beaming Sam just chuckled at the question.

“Let's go my dear *wife*.”

They both laugh as they walk down the aisle.

## **THE END**



# RUN AWAY TICKET

An adventurous tale of a couple on their 3-year anniversary and a lost lottery ticket.

Join them as they chase a sneaking cassowary that's on the loose.

How did the bird get out?

